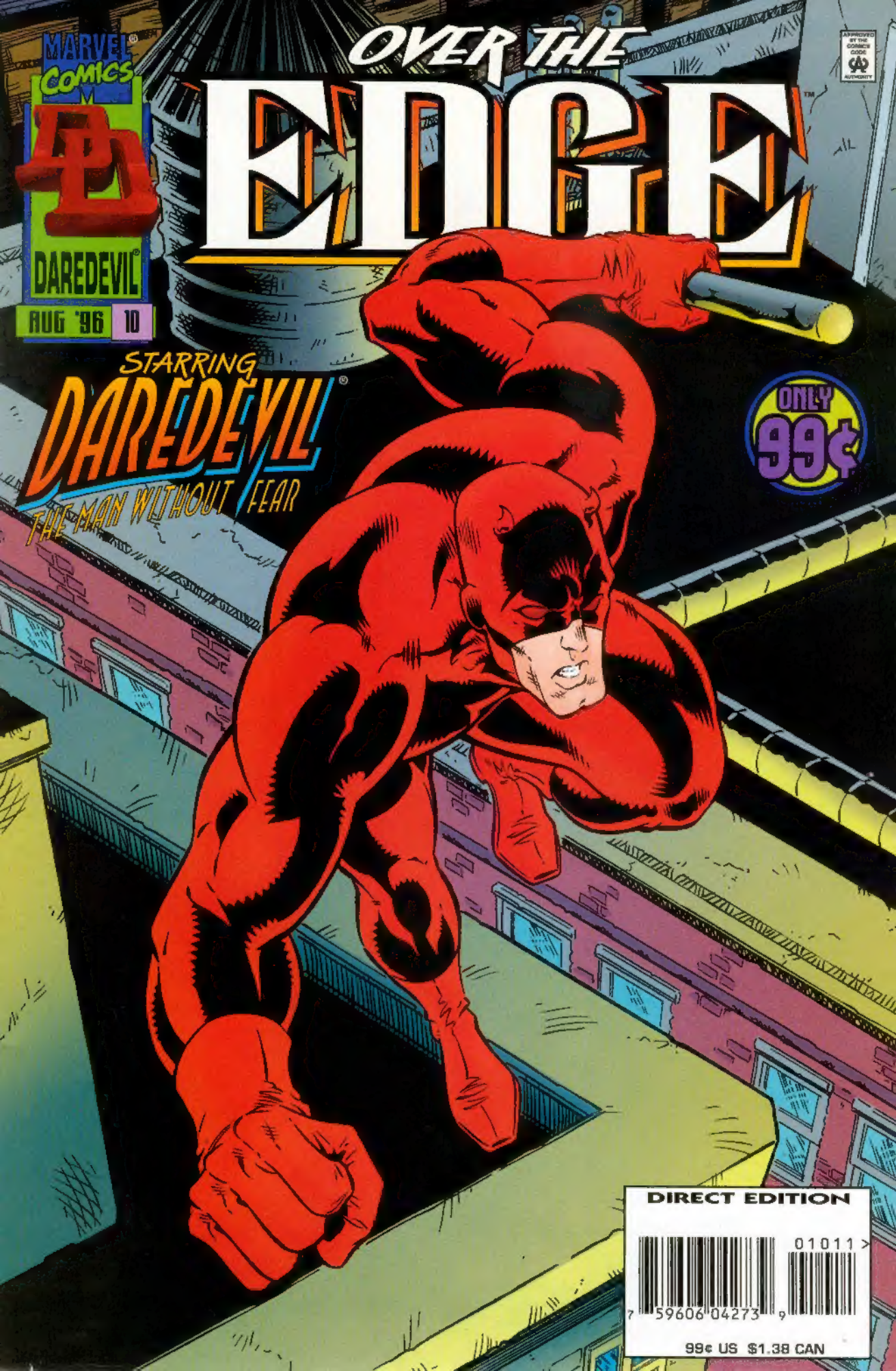
MARVEL COMICS
DAREDEVIL
AUG '96 10
OVER THE EDGE
STARRING DAREDEVIL
THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR
ONLY 99¢
DIRECT EDITION
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99¢ US $1.38 CAN

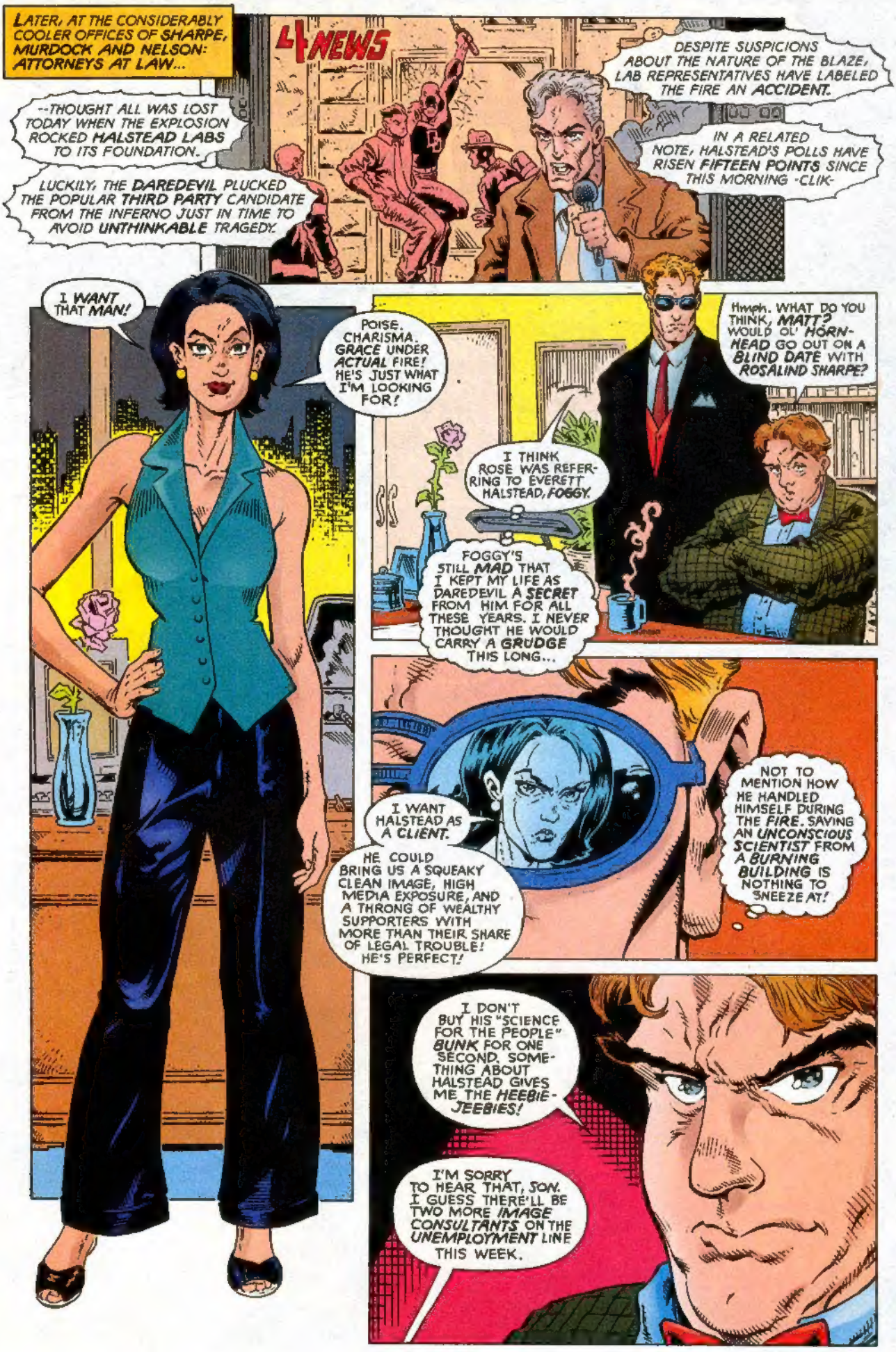
MANHATTAN. MIDDAY.
PICTURE IT.
SIX BLOCKS NORTH AND EIGHTY STORIES UP, YOU CATCH A WHIFF OF THE SMOKE. SECONDS LATER, YOU'RE FALLING TOWARDS IT'S SOURCE-- FAST.
AT SIXTY STORIES, WAVES OF HEAT STRONG ENOUGH TO BROWN TOAST BOUNCE AGAINST YOUR FACE--
--AT FORTY-FIVE STORIES, YOU TASTE A DOZEN TRACE CHEMICALS IN THE AIR. SULFUR. MAGNESIUM CHLORIDE. ARGON. THE ONES YOU DON'T RECOGNIZE YOU CAN CATALOG FOR LATER.
THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FINALLY SHUTS OFF THE SIRENS YOU STARTED IGNORING AT THIRTY STORIES. THE RESPONSE TIME IN A CITY THIS CROWDED IS IMPRESSIVE, ALL THINGS CONSIDERED--
--TWENTY STORIES AND DROPPING LIKE AN ANGEL BOOTED FROM HEAVEN, SOMETHING WHIZZES PAST YOUR LEFT EAR. STONE, FROM THE SOUND OF IT, STURDY.
LAST STOP BEFORE YOU GET INTIMATE WITH THE PAVEMENT.
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS FIRE OFF A LINE AND HOPE IT HOLDS.
READY--
--AIM--
PFAFF
ONLOOKERS GASP AS YOUR CABLE SNAKES UPWARDS, AND YOU WONDER IF THEY'D SHRIEK TWICE AS LOUD IF THEY ONLY KNEW--
--THAT IT WAS A BLIND MAN WHO HAD JUST THROWN HIMSELF OFF A ROOF.
SCARED YET? YOU SHOULD BE--

OVER THE EDGE™ Vol. 1, No. 10, August, 1996. Published by MARVEL COMICS. Gerard Calabrese, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Published monthly. Copyright © 1996 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $.99 per copy in the U.S. and $1.35 in Canada. GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. OVER THE EDGE (including all prominent characters featured in the issue and the distinctive likeness(es) thereof) are trademarks of MARVEL CHARACTERS, INC. Printed in the U.S.A.

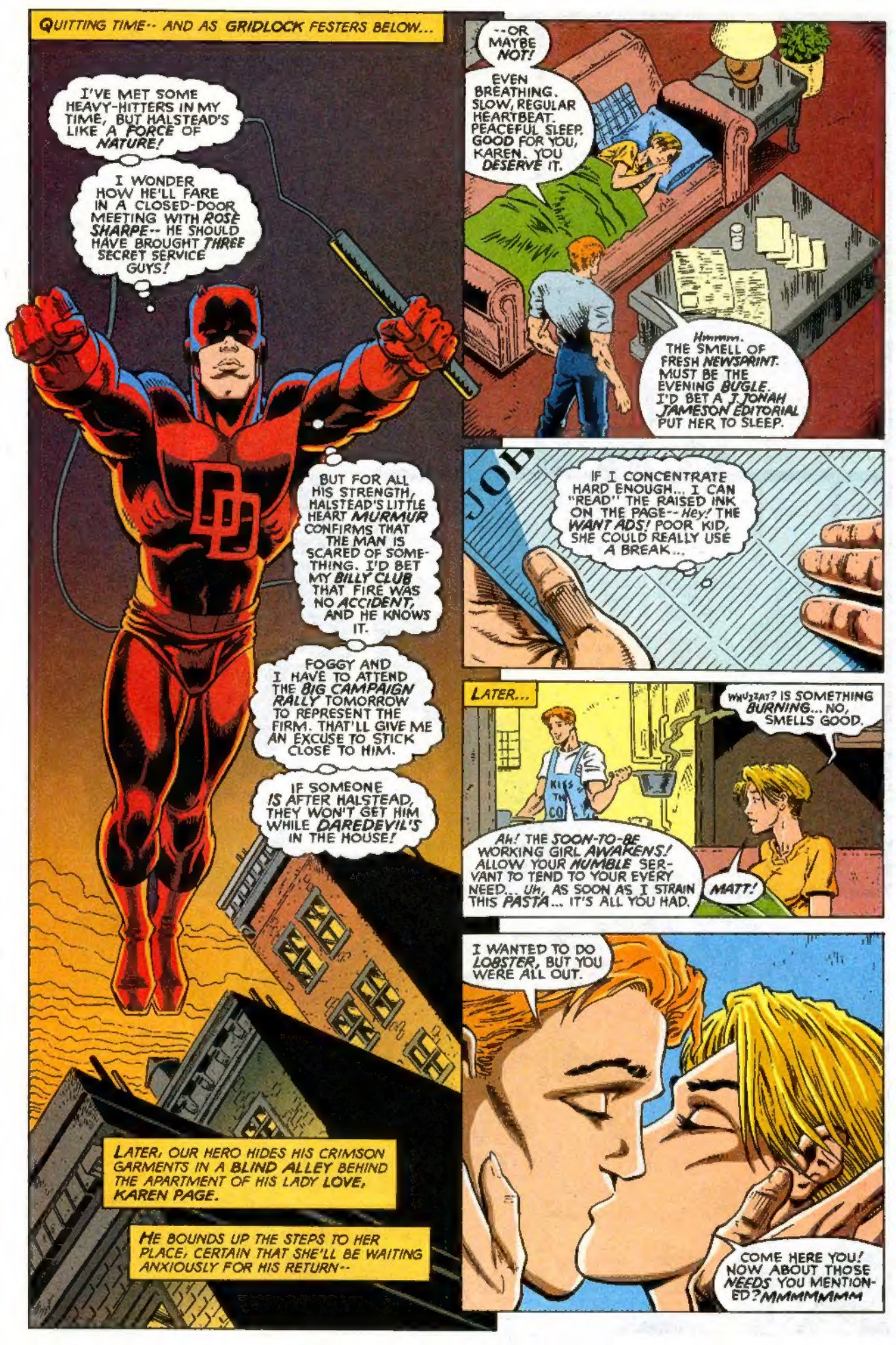
THERE ARE PEOPLE TRAPPED INSIDE! I CAN'T SEE-- DAREDEVIL!
AND I WAS GOING TO GO NIGHT JOGGING IN THIS GET-UP! GUESS I'LL HAVE TO ADD SOME LIGHTS!
FOCUS ON THE BLAZE, GENTLEMEN, I'LL ROUND UP THE FOLKS INSIDE!
BACK IN A FLASH!
THE SMOKE COMING OUT OF THAT PLACE IS HIGHLY TOXIC. NO ONE GOES IN WITHOUT OXYGEN!
GET TRIAGE ON STANBY! IF THAT THING BLOWS, IT AIN'T GONNA BE PRETTY!
HALSTEAD FOR PRESIDENT
:koff:
I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING!
WHO HAS :koff: HALSTEAD?
THIS WAY! FOLLOW MY VOICE!
FORGET HIM! WHERE'S THE EXIT?
IS ANYONE STILL IN THERE?
HALSTEAD! :koff: HE WENT BACK TO LOOK FOR OTHERS! I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE SO BRAVE-- YOU HAVE TO SAVE HIM!
GET DOWNSTAIRS AND I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU!
HE'S THE LAST HOPE THIS COUNTRY HAS, DAREDEVIL! SAVE EVERETT HALSTEAD! SAVE OUR NEXT PRESIDENT!
I'D PROBABLY BE USELESS IN ALL THIS HAZE IF I NEEDED MY EYES TO SEARCH THIS JOINT.
--ASSUMING THAT MY RADAR SENSE ISN'T TOO AFFECTED BY THE SMOKE, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND--
BINGO! HEAVY BREATHING ... SOUND OF METAL CREAKING... WEAK HEARTBEAT. SOUNDS LIKE OUR CANDIDATE'S PLAYING HERO!
CHESTER! I'VE GOT YOU, MAN!
:snif:
CHEMICALS IN THE AIR ARE THICK, BUT THERE ARE LIGHT TRACES OF HUMAN SWEAT--

HALSTEAD!
FIRE SPREAD SO QUICKLY... MONSTER... WHERE IS THE MONSTER... unghhh...
OVER HERE, SON! THIS MAN NEEDS MEDICAL ATTENTION!
KRRRRRASSSHHH
HE'LL NEED ASBESTOS UNDERWEAR IN HALF A SECOND IF WE DON'T MOVE IT!
WAIT! FOOTSTEPS-- THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE IN HERE--
HE'S UNCONSCIOUS! YOU'LL HAVE TO HELP ME--
RUSH OF HEAT FROM ABOVE-- SOUND OF WOOD BREAKING-- THE FIRE'S RIPPED THROUGH THE SUPERSTRUCTURE! GET DOWN!
WHOEVER THAT WAS, AT LEAST THEY ENDED UP ON THE EXIT SIDE OF THE CAVE-IN.
GASSES IN HERE ARE REACHING THEIR CRITICAL TEMPERATURE. LET'S MAKE LIKE A YACHT AND CRUISE OUT OF HERE!
I HOPE YOU HAVE A MORE DETAILED PLAN THAN THAT, SON--
--BECAUSE THERE AREN'T ANY STAIRS THIS WAY TO CRUISE DOWN!
STAIRS? I WAS THINKING OF SOMETHING A LITTLE MORE DIRECT, MISTER HALSTEAD--
BRAKA-CHOOOM
Oh, MY--
EVERYONE FALL BACK! FALL BACK!

UNNNGHH!
DAREDEVIL!
FSH WOOM
THAT SUMS UP TODAY'S LESSON ON COMBUSTIBLE GASSES-- LET'S JUMP RIGHT INTO A DEMONSTRATION OF GRAVITY!
HALSTEAD! TAKE MY HAND!
AAIEEE!
HAVE TO TWIST AROUND AND HOOK THIS JUST RIGHT, OR WE'LL ALL BE STREET PIZZA!
STOP SCREAMING AND GRAB HOLD OF ME, CHESTER!
--WHAT ABOUT ONE HECK OF AN IMPROVISATION INSTEAD?!
WHATEVER IT TAKES, SON... THAT'S MY PHILOSOPHY. GOOD JOB.
GOT IT! YOU WANTED A PLAN--
AHHHH!
SSS SSHH
FSSS

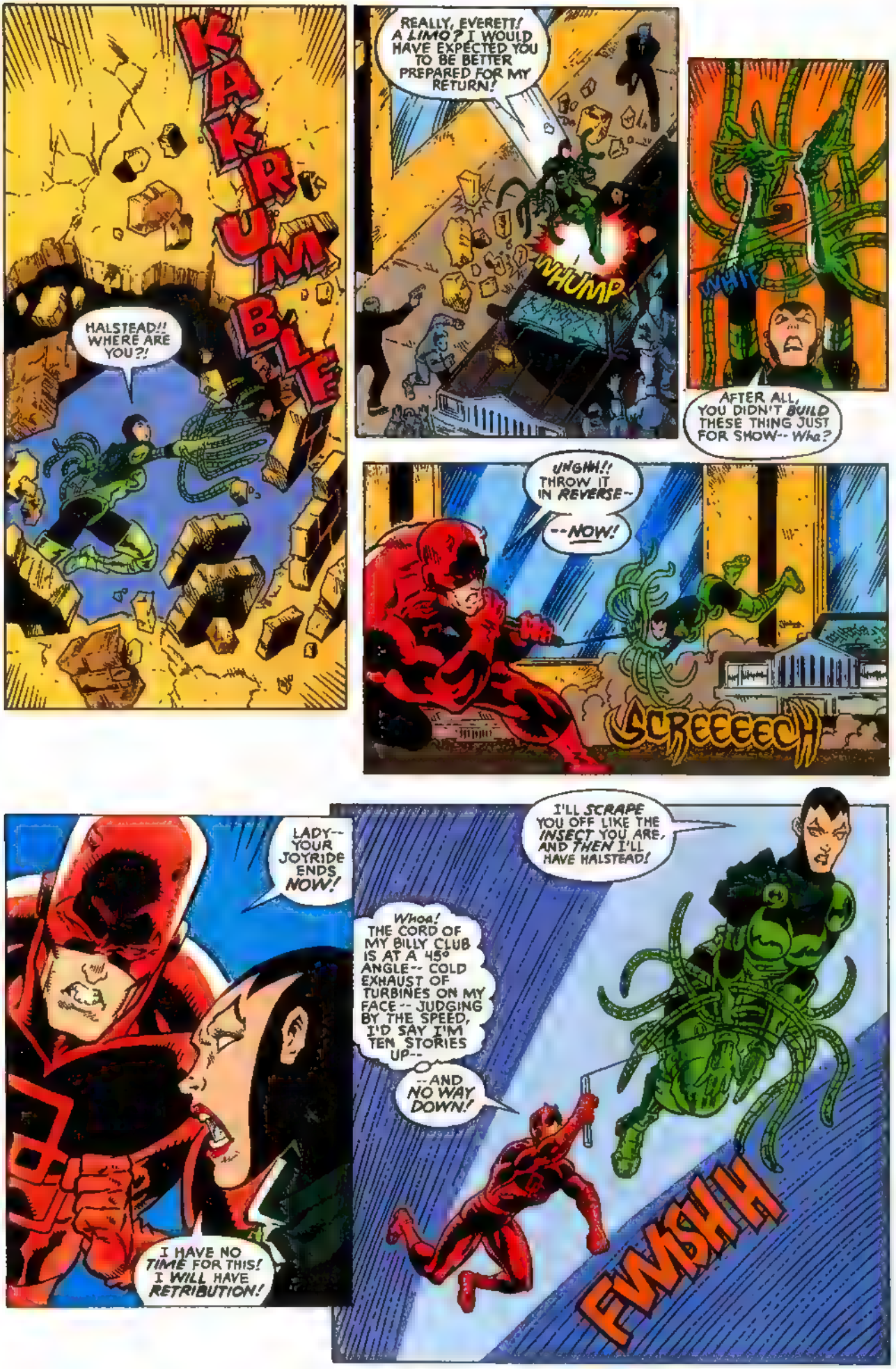

LATER, AT THE CONSIDERABLY COOLER OFFICES OF SHARPE, MURDOCK AND NELSON: ATTORNEYS AT LAW...
4 NEWS
--THOUGHT ALL WAS LOST TODAY WHEN THE EXPLOSION ROCKED HALSTEAD LABS TO ITS FOUNDATION.
LUCKILY, THE DAREDEVIL PLUCKED THE POPULAR THIRD PARTY CANDIDATE FROM THE INFERNO JUST IN TIME TO AVOID UNTHINKABLE TRAGEDY.
DESPITE SUSPICIONS ABOUT THE NATURE OF THE BLAZE, LAB REPRESENTATIVES HAVE LABELED THE FIRE AN ACCIDENT.
IN A RELATED NOTE, HALSTEAD'S POLLS HAVE RISEN FIFTEEN POINTS SINCE THIS MORNING -CLIK-
I WANT THAT MAN!
POISE. CHARISMA. GRACE UNDER ACTUAL FIRE! HE'S JUST WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR!
Hmph. WHAT DO YOU THINK, MATT? WOULD OL' HORN-HEAD GO OUT ON A BLIND DATE WITH ROSALIND SHARPE?
I THINK ROSE WAS REFERRING TO EVERETT HALSTEAD, FOGGY.
FOGGY'S STILL MAD THAT I KEPT MY LIFE AS DAREDEVIL A SECRET FROM HIM FOR ALL THESE YEARS. I NEVER THOUGHT HE WOULD CARRY A GRUDGE THIS LONG...
I WANT HALSTEAD AS A CLIENT.
HE COULD BRING US A SQUEAKY CLEAN IMAGE, HIGH MEDIA EXPOSURE, AND A THRONG OF WEALTHY SUPPORTERS WITH MORE THAN THEIR SHARE OF LEGAL TROUBLE! HE'S PERFECT!
NOT TO MENTION HOW HE HANDLED HIMSELF DURING THE FIRE. SAVING AN UNCONSCIOUS SCIENTIST FROM A BURNING BUILDING IS NOTHING TO SNEEZE AT!
I DON'T BUY HIS "SCIENCE FOR THE PEOPLE" BUNK FOR ONE SECOND. SOMETHING ABOUT HALSTEAD GIVES ME THE HEEBIE-JEEBIES!
I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT, SON. I GUESS THERE'LL BE TWO MORE IMAGE CONSULTANTS ON THE UNEMPLOYMENT LINE THIS WEEK.

YOUR TWELVE O'CLOCK, Ms. SHARPE. Mr. EVERETT HALSTEAD AND... Umm... GUESTS?
DON'T LET GRIM AND GRIMMER PUT YOU OFF, MISS. THEY ONLY BITE BAD GUYS.
THAT'S RIGHT, MA'AM.
BAD GUYS, MA'AM.
THE FINE ART OF CONVERSATION ISN'T ONE OF THEIR STRONG POINTS. I SUPPOSE THAT'S WHY THE POLITICIANS MAKE THE SPEECHES, INSTEAD OF THE SECRET SERVICE.
YOU MUST BE MATT MURDOCK. HEARD A LOT OF POSITIVE GAB ABOUT YOU, COUNSELOR.
LIKEWISE, SIR. IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET A POLITICIAN I CAN ACTUALLY RESPECT.
Ha! I'LL BET THAT SENSE OF HUMOR DOESN'T BUY YOU MANY INVITATIONS TO THE MAYOR'S DINNER TABLE.
NOT A ONE. YOU SOUND CHIPPER FOR A MAN WHO BARELY SURVIVED A NEAR-DEATH EXPERIENCE. HAVE THERE BEEN ANY LEADS ON THE ARSON CASE?
ARSON?! GOODNESS, WHO LEAKED THAT? IT WAS AN INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT!
Hmmm. HIS HEART JUST SKIPPED A BEAT, AS IF HE WAS SUDDENLY NERVOUS ABOUT SOMETHING. CURIOUS...
TELL TRUTH, SON, I'VE BEEN SO BUSY KISSING BABIES THAT I HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO LET THE SHOCK SINK IN.
I JUST THANK THE MAKER THAT DAREDEVIL SHOWED UP WHEN HE DID, OR MY CHANCES AT THE WHITE HOUSE WOULD HAVE DROPPED CONSIDERABLY!
Well, ACCIDENTS HAPPEN, AND SO DO MIRACLES, THANK THE, Uh, MAKER. NOW, IF YOU BOYS DON'T MIND, EVERETT AND I HAVE SOME BUSINESS TO DISCUSS...
PLEASURE TALKING WITH YOU, COUNSELORS.
GOOD AFTERNOON, SIR.
ROSE, ARE YOU SURE YOU WOULDN'T LIKE US IN ON THIS MEETING?
I APPRECIATE YOUR ENTHUSIASM, MATT, BUT I THINK THIS IS A FISH BEST HOOKED WITH SOMETHING SWEET.
DON'T WAIT UP.
SLAM
I'M TELLING YOU, MATT, IF ALL POLITICIANS ARE SLIME, HE'S THE MUCOUS KING! BUT WHO AM I TO HAVE AN OPINION? JUST FOGGY...
GIVE IT A REST, FOGSTER! HALSTEAD'S THE REAL ITEM. HE'S A LEADER. YOU'RE JUST BEING CYNICAL.
WELL EXCUSE ME, DUDLEY DAREDEVIL... WE CAN'T ALL BE SUPERPOWERED JUDGES OF CHARACTER.
I HEARD THAT.


QUITTING TIME-- AND AS GRIDLOCK FESTERS BELOW...
I'VE MET SOME HEAVY-HITTERS IN MY TIME, BUT HALSTEAD'S LIKE A FORCE OF NATURE!
I WONDER HOW HE'LL FARE IN A CLOSED-DOOR MEETING WITH ROSE SHARPE-- HE SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT THREE SECRET SERVICE GUYS!
BUT FOR ALL HIS STRENGTH, HALSTEAD'S LITTLE HEART MURMUR CONFIRMS THAT THE MAN IS SCARED OF SOMETHING. I'D BET MY BILLY CLUB THAT FIRE WAS NO ACCIDENT, AND HE KNOWS IT.
FOGGY AND I HAVE TO ATTEND THE BIG CAMPAIGN RALLY TOMORROW TO REPRESENT THE FIRM. THAT'LL GIVE ME AN EXCUSE TO STICK CLOSE TO HIM.
IF SOMEONE IS AFTER HALSTEAD, THEY WON'T GET HIM WHILE DAREDEVIL'S IN THE HOUSE!
LATER, OUR HERO HIDES HIS CRIMSON GARMENTS IN A BLIND ALLEY BEHIND THE APARTMENT OF HIS LADY LOVE, KAREN PAGE.
HE BOUNDS UP THE STEPS TO HER PLACE, CERTAIN THAT SHE'LL BE WAITING ANXIOUSLY FOR HIS RETURN--
--OR MAYBE NOT!
EVEN BREATHING. SLOW, REGULAR HEARTBEAT. PEACEFUL SLEEP. GOOD FOR YOU, KAREN. YOU DESERVE IT.
Hmmm. THE SMELL OF FRESH NEWSPRINT. MUST BE THE EVENING BUGLE. I'D BET A J. JONAH JAMESON EDITORIAL PUT HER TO SLEEP.
JOB
IF I CONCENTRATE HARD ENOUGH... I CAN "READ" THE RAISED INK ON THE PAGE-- Hey! THE WANT ADS! POOR KID, SHE COULD REALLY USE A BREAK...
LATER...
WHUZZAT? IS SOMETHING BURNING... NO, SMELLS GOOD.
AH! THE SOON-TO-BE WORKING GIRL AWAKENS! ALLOW YOUR HUMBLE SERVANT TO TEND TO YOUR EVERY NEED... Uh, AS SOON AS I STRAIN THIS PASTA... IT'S ALL YOU HAD.
MATT!
I WANTED TO DO LOBSTER, BUT YOU WERE ALL OUT.
COME HERE YOU! NOW ABOUT THOSE NEEDS YOU MENTIONED? MMMMMMM

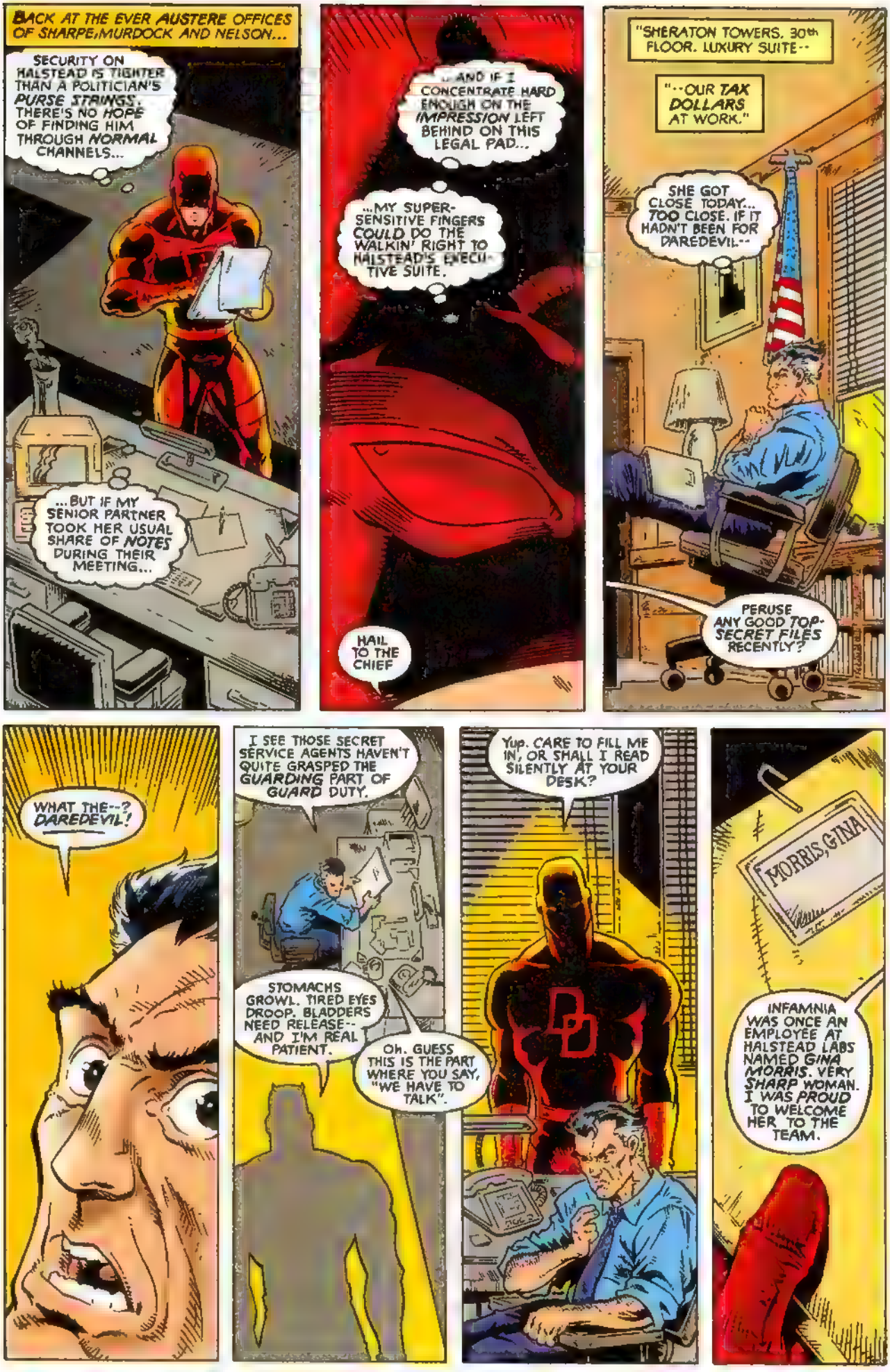
THE JAVITZ CENTER. THE WEST SIDE.
"I'VE CHECKED BACKSTAGE THREE TIMES. NO SCENT OF PLASTIQUE OR GASOLINE. WON'T BE A BOMB."
"--THE SYSTEM CAN WORK, BUT ONLY IF WE HAVE THE COURAGE TO GET BEYOND PETTY PREJUDICES AND CLASSISM--"
--WE MUST MAKE TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE TO EVERY ONE! LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD FOR OUR NATION'S CHILDREN--
"--ENOUGH SECRET SERVICE AROUND THE PERIMETER TO TAKE OVER NEW JERSEY. NO ROOM FOR A SNIPER."
--SO THAT FUTURE GENERATIONS CAN WORK IN HARMONY AND FORGE A STRONGER AMERICA.
--TWO PASSES THROUGH THE CROWD AND ALL I'VE FOUND WERE THE UNDERCOVER COPS. I CAN HEAR THEIR HANDCUFFS JINGLE BETWEEN APPLAUSE--
--NOTHING AT ALL OUT OF THE ORDINARY... UNLESS YOU COUNT THE FACT THAT FOGGY HAS ACTUALLY FALLEN ASLEEP IN A STANDING POSITION.
--THIS IS MY VISION OF THE FUTURE. THIS IS MY PROMISE TO YOU. THIS IS MY DREAM.
hzzzzz SNORT zzzzzz
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
I WISH I COULD ENJOY HALSTEAD'S SPEECH, BUT I CAN'T SHAKE THE FEELING THAT HE'S STILL IN DANGER. MAYBE I'LL TAKE ONE MORE PASS AROUND THE STADIUM. JUST TO MAKE SURE--
KER-KRISH
HALSTEAD!!
WHAT IN BLUE BLAZES?!
WHAZZAT? WHAT'D I MISS, MATT?
Oh, MY--

YOU SPEAK SO ELOQUENTLY ABOUT THE FUTURE, EVERETT! IRONIC THAT YOU'LL NEVER LIVE TO SEE IT!
BOGEY ON-SITE! EXECUTE EVAC OF ALPHA ONE-- GAAKK
YOUR DAY OF RECKONING HAS COME! SPEAK THE TRUTH AND YOU'LL BE GRANTED A HASTY DEATH AT THE HANDS OF--
INFAMNIA!
WHAT IS IT? GET AWAY FROM ME!
HEY LADY, YOU MUST BE LOST! THE CYBER-SQUID SUPPORT GROUP IS DOWN THE HALL!
CHWAKK
UNGHH-- THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU, MEAT! THIS IS BETWEEN HALSTEAD AND HIS CREATION!
KRUNSSHHHH
DIDN'T YOUR MOTHER EVER TELL YOU THAT IT'S NOT VERY LADYLIKE TO THROW YOUR TENTACLES AROUND IN PUBLIC?
SHE'S DEFINITELY NOT A PRO, BUT THOSE ARMS OF HERS ARE FAST! WHAT'S HER CONNECTION TO HALSTEAD?
unnghh
SHE'S TEARING THE PLACE TO PIECES!
NO!
HALP
THE DEBRIS IS RIPPING THROUGH THE CROWD! STOP IT!
WHAM
IF HE ISN'T STOPPED NOW, A WHOLE NATION'LL BE AT HIS MERCY!
OOOF!


KAKRUMBLE
HALSTEAD!! WHERE ARE YOU?!
REALLY, EVERETT! A LIMO? I WOULD HAVE EXPECTED YOU TO BE BETTER PREPARED FOR MY RETURN!
WHUMP
WHIF
AFTER ALL, YOU DIDN'T BUILD THESE THING JUST FOR SHOW-- Wha?
UNGHH!! THROW IT IN REVERSE--
--NOW!
SCREEEECH
LADY-- YOUR JOYRIDE ENDS NOW!
I HAVE NO TIME FOR THIS! I WILL HAVE RETRIBUTION!
Whoa! THE CORD OF MY BILLY CLUB IS AT A 45° ANGLE-- COLD EXHAUST OF TURBINES ON MY FACE-- JUDGING BY THE SPEED, I'D SAY I'M TEN STORIES UP--
--AND NO WAY DOWN!
I'LL SCRAPE YOU OFF LIKE THE INSECT YOU ARE, AND THEN I'LL HAVE HALSTEAD!
FWISHH

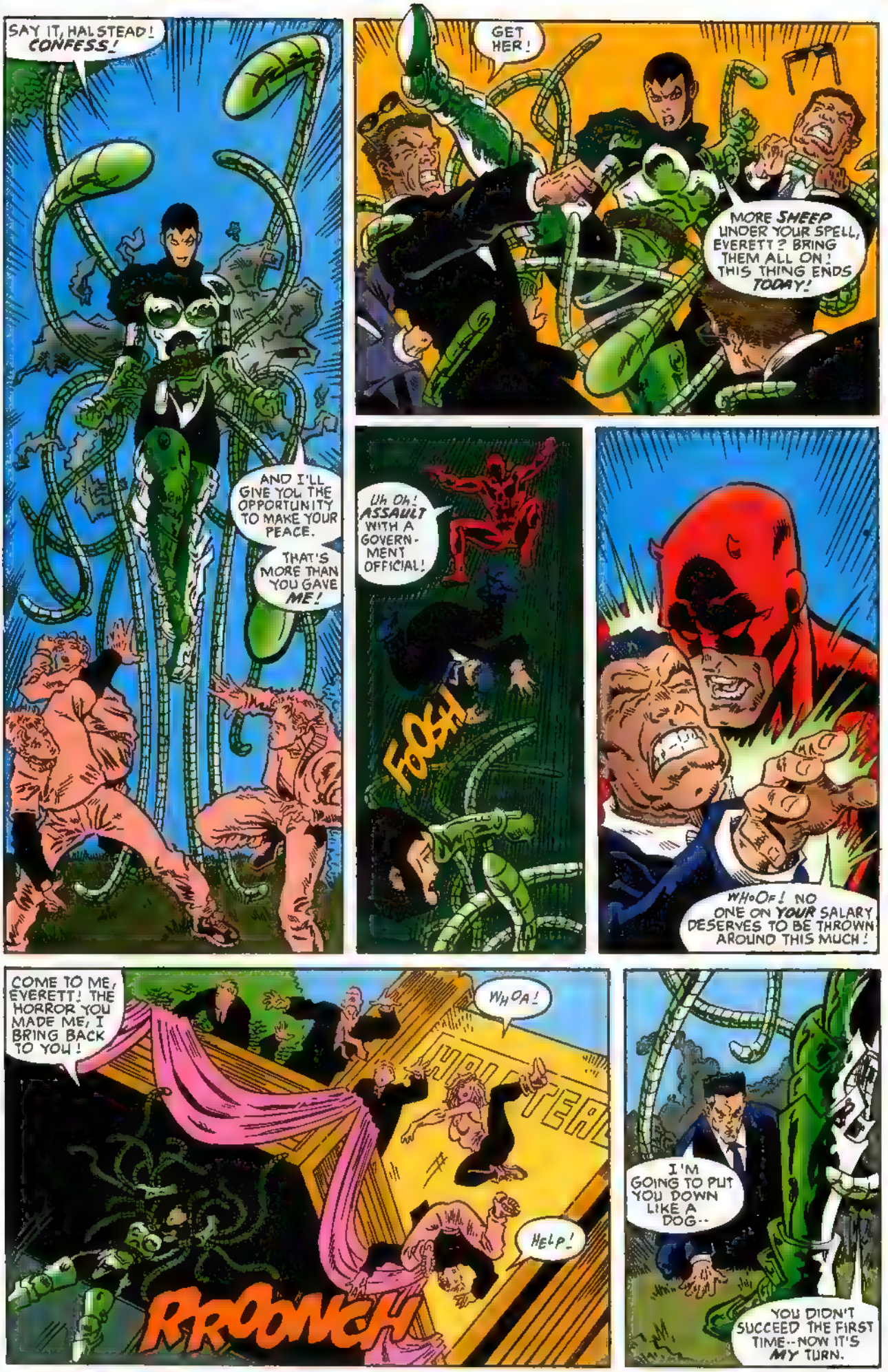
LOOK, I'VE--uh--GOT YOU EXACTLY WHERE I WANT YOU! Yeah! GIVE UP NOW OR I'LL HAVE TO GET ROUGH!
DON'T YOU EVER STOP SPEAKING, WORM?
NOPE. PART OF MY BOYISH CHARM...
...ANYTHING TO KEEP YOU DISTRACTED WHILE I TAKE STOCK OF MY TRAJECTORY, SPEED AND AMBIENT--
--NOISE? SMELL OF OZONE--
--HIGH VOLTAGE WIRES RIGHT BELOW.
JUST HAVE TO USE MY WEIGHT TO CONTROL HER DESCENT!
AIIEGNNNH
FRZZAZZL
I'M SHOCKED YOU DIDN'T SEE THAT COMING, LADY.
HER HEART'S STILL GOING--SHE'S A JUGGERNAUT! HOW AM I GOING TO STOP HER?
NOW THAT YOU'RE A LITTLE MORE GROUNDED MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO SETTLE THIS OVER A NICE CUP OF CAPPUCCINO?
IS THIS PART OF THE EXHIBIT?
WHOOMP
TO YOU THIS IS A JOKE! THIS IS MY LIFE. THIS THING HE MADE ME INTO!
SCHUN
SHOK
KRAK
POW
NICE TRICK. CAN YOU CUT THROUGH A TIN CAN WITH THOSE THINGS TOO?

YOU WANT SO BADLY TO PLAY THE HERO, LITTLE MAN?
63
HERE'S YOUR CHANCE-- CATCH!
KK RUNCH
MADRE DE DIOS!
HALSTEAD'S GETTING AWAY, AND I WILL NOT BE DENIED REVENGE!
TWISTING METAL-- SCREAMS-- THE TOWER!
I CAN HEAR THE OLD MAN'S HEART RACING, BUT HE'S TOO WEAK TO MOVE--
KRANGGG
--TOO FAR AWAY FOR ME TO GRAB--
--MY BILLY CLUB'S THE ONLY CHANCE--
SCHMP
OH, PAPI
INFAMNIA'S GONE HAVE PNEUMATIC LEGS, WILL TRAVEL.
AT LEAST SHE DIDN'T GET HALSTEAD-- BUT WHAT'S THEIR CONNECTION? INFAMNIA'S NO RUN-OF-THE-MILL ASSASSIN. WHAT'S HER VENDETTA ABOUT?
SOMEONE'S GOING TO GET KILLED IF THIS CONTINUES...
.. AND IT'LL PROBABLY BE ME IF I DON'T GET SOME ANSWERS QUICK!


BACK AT THE EVER AUSTERE OFFICES OF SHARPE, MURDOCK AND NELSON...
SECURITY ON HALSTEAD IS TIGHTER THAN A POLITICIAN'S PURSE STRINGS. THERE'S NO HOPE OF FINDING HIM THROUGH NORMAL CHANNELS...
...BUT IF MY SENIOR PARTNER TOOK HER USUAL SHARE OF NOTES DURING THEIR MEETING...
...AND IF I CONCENTRATE HARD ENOUGH ON THE IMPRESSION LEFT BEHIND ON THIS LEGAL PAD...
...MY SUPER-SENSITIVE FINGERS COULD DO THE WALKIN' RIGHT TO HALSTEAD'S EXECUTIVE SUITE.
HAIL TO THE CHIEF
"SHERATON TOWERS, 30th FLOOR. LUXURY SUITE--
"--OUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK."
SHE GOT CLOSE TODAY... TOO CLOSE. IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR DAREDEVIL--
PERUSE ANY GOOD TOP-SECRET FILES RECENTLY?
WHAT THE--? DAREDEVIL!
I SEE THOSE SECRET SERVICE AGENTS HAVEN'T QUITE GRASPED THE GUARDING PART OF GUARD DUTY.
STOMACHS GROWL. TIRED EYES DROOP. BLADDERS NEED RELEASE-- AND I'M REAL PATIENT.
OH. GUESS THIS IS THE PART WHERE YOU SAY, "WE HAVE TO TALK".
YUP. CARE TO FILL ME IN, OR SHALL I READ SILENTLY AT YOUR DESK?
MORRIS, GINA
INFAMNIA WAS ONCE AN EMPLOYEE AT HALSTEAD LABS NAMED GINA MORRIS. VERY SHARP WOMAN. I WAS PROUD TO WELCOME HER TO THE TEAM.

AFTER ABOUT A YEAR SHE TOLD ME THAT SHE HAD CANCER. SHE NEEDED TREATMENTS MORE DRASTIC THAN CONVENTIONAL MEDICINE WOULD ETHICALLY ALLOW.
I OFFERED TO HELP--
"WHATEVER IT TAKES". RIGHT. FAST FORWARD.
WE REMOVED INFECTED SECTIONS OF HER BODY AND REPLACED THEM WITH BIO-TECHNICAL APPLIANCES. PHYSICALLY, THE OPERATION WAS A COMPLETE SUCCESS.
YOU CALL INFAMNIA A SUCCESS?!
I SAID PHYSICALLY! HER MIND DIDN'T TAKE WELL TO THE METABOLIC CIRCUITRY. SHE BECAME PARANOID, CONVINCED THAT WE MEANT HER HARM.
SHE OUTFITTED HERSELF WITH THE GAUNTLETS FOR "SELF-DEFENSE". YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE IT, BUT THOSE APPENDAGES OF HERS WERE ORIGINALLY MEANT FOR FARMING.
THE SURGERY THAT SAVED HER LIFE HAS TURNED HER INTO A KILLING MACHINE, AND SHE THINK'S I'M RESPONSIBLE
IN SOME WAYS, I AM. THAT'S THE NUTSHELL.
FOR A GUY WHO MIGHT BE LYING THROUGH HIS TEETH, HIS HEARTBEAT'S PRETTY STEADY; CONSISTENT WITH A MAN HIS AGE WHO'S UNDER STRESS.
WHY DIDN'T YOU REPORT ANY OF THIS TO THE AUTHORITIES?
WHAT DO YOU THINK THE PRESS WOULD DO WITH A STORY LIKE THAT? I'D BE PIRANHA FOOD BEFORE THE MORNING EDITION.
NOW HIS HEART PICKS UP..
TAKE A FEW DAYS OFF FROM THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL; LAY LOW WHILE I TRACK HER DOWN AND GET HER SOME HELP.
IMPOSSIBLE. SON WHAT'S IT GONNA LOOK LIKE IF A MAN WHO WANTS TO LEAD THE FREE WORLD CAN'T STAND UP TO ONE DERANGED WOMAN? I HAVE TO KEEP GOING.
I'D FEEL A LOT BETTER ABOUT IT IF YOU WERE WATCHING MY BACK--
UNTIL I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT'S GOING ON, I'LL BE WATCHING A LOT MORE THAN JUST THAT, Mr. HALSTEAD
IF I FIND OUT THAT YOU'RE HOLDING OUT ON ME, YOU CAN BET THAT BAD PRESS WILL BE THE LEAST OF YOUR WORRIES.
I'LL TAKE THAT RISK, SON.. ANTE STARTS WITH YOUR LIFE!
SMOOTH AS SILK, HALSTEAD. KEEP THIS UP AND YOUR LITTLE PROBLEMS MIGHT CANCEL ONE ANOTHER OUT!

A RESTLESS NIGHT PASSES INTO MORNING...
I UNDERSTAND WHY HE WOULDN'T CANCEL THE WHOLE JUNKET, BUT DID HE HAVE TO DO HIS SPIEL OUTSIDE?
IT'S AS IF HE'S BEGGING INFAMNIA TO ATTACK HIM!
I'M STARTING TO LIKE POLITICS LESS THE MORE I LEARN ABOUT EVERETT HALSTEAD!
THE INDEFATIGABLE HUMAN SPIRIT, WHICH WILL RISE TO BUILD A BETTER AMERICA. A POTENT AMERICA. MY AMERICA.
CLAP CLAP
IF YOU LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE PRESS AREN'T TIRED OF HEARING AN OLD MAN SPEAK, I'LL OPEN THE FLOOR TO QUESTIONS.
CLAP CLAP
MR. HALSTEAD, AREN'T YOU WORRIED ABOUT ANOTHER ATTEMPT ON YOUR LIFE?
I'VE ENCOUNTERED MANY A MONSTER IN MY DAY, SON, AND NOT ONCE DID I TURN TAIL AND RUN.
NEXT QUESTION--
HE SURE DOESN'T SOUND LIKE A MARKED MAN. I'D SAY HE'S GETTING COCKIER BY THE DAY--
ISN'T IT TRUE, EVERETT, THAT THE MONSTER IN QUESTION WAS ONCE A NORMAL WOMAN--
THAT VOICE--
ROOKIE MISTAKE TO ASSUME THAT SHE'D ATTACK FROM ABOVE!
--TRANSFORMED AGAINST HER WILL--BY YOUR OWN PERVERSE HAND?
HALSTEAD! GET DOWN! IT'S HER!


SAY IT, HALSTEAD! CONFESS!
AND I'LL GIVE YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE YOUR PEACE.
THAT'S MORE THAN YOU GAVE ME!
GET HER!
MORE SHEEP UNDER YOUR SPELL, EVERETT? BRING THEM ALL ON! THIS THING ENDS TODAY!
Uh Oh! ASSAULT WITH A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL!
FOOSH
WHOOF! NO ONE ON YOUR SALARY DESERVES TO BE THROWN AROUND THIS MUCH!
COME TO ME, EVERETT! THE HORROR YOU MADE ME, I BRING BACK TO YOU!
WHOA!
HELP!
RROONCH
I'M GOING TO PUT YOU DOWN LIKE A DOG..
YOU DIDN'T SUCCEED THE FIRST TIME--NOW IT'S MY TURN.

WHSSSSSSSH
FTWHAP
INFAMNIA! HALSTEAD TOLD ME ABOUT THE IMPLANTS! MAYBE WE CAN WORK SOMETHING OUT BEFORE YOU REALLY HURT SOMEONE!
IF YOU BELIEVE ANYTHING THAT DRIPS FROM HIS MOUTH, THEN YOU'RE AS NAIVE AS I WAS!
IF YOU INSIST ON STANDING WITH HIM, I'LL JUST KILL YOU BOTH!
HAS ANYONE EVER TOLD YOU--
WHOOSH
FOX
--THAT YOU'RE EXTREMELY REDUNDANT?!?
WHAP
EVERYTHING OUT OF YOUR MOUTH IS "KILL HALSTEAD" OR "I HATE HALSTEAD" AND IT'S REALLY STARTING TO GET ON MY NERVES!
MENTALLY ILL OR NOT, I'LL BE HAPPY TO TEACH YOU THE VALUE OF SILENCE--
GAGGHH!

ENOUGH DISTRACTIONS! YOU DESIGNED A KILLER! NOW YOU'LL SEE YOUR HARD WORK BEAR FRUIT!
COPS COMING..
...THIS WILL CONTINUE UNINTERRUPTED.
YOU CAN'T DO THIS! I OWN YOU!
URRGH! ALMOST BLACKING OUT... TENTACLES TIGHT!
NOT ANY MORE! I CAME TO YOU FOR HELP... AND YOU USED ME LIKE AN ANIMAL FOR YOUR TWISTED EXPERIMENT!
WE GAVE YOU POWER! LIFE!
LIFE?! I'M A COLD MACHINE! I DON'T BREATHE... EAT!
THIS FLESH IS PLASTIC AND COLD!
SHE'S SO FIXATED ON HALSTEAD HER CONTROL OVER THIS TENTACLE IS WEAKENING SLIGHTLY!
ALL SO THAT YOU COULD SCORE A CONTRACT WITH THE MILITARY AND CEMENT YOUR POLITICAL CAREER!
I CAN FEEL... TINY SPACES... BETWEEN SEGMENTS!
IF I CAN STRIKE THE FLAW JUST RIGHT--
I WANT MY LIFE-- AAHHIGHHH!
TENTACLES FUSED TO MY BODY-- GUESS YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT-- BUT WHAT DO YOU CARE? YOU'RE JUST ANOTHER YEAH... THE SPOTLIGHT OUT TO HURT ME...
FOGGY WAS RIGHT.
HALSTEAD LIED! YOU'RE NOT CRAZY!
WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
COUGH THIS IS REX TO PHOENIX ONE! I'M CLEAR-- ENGAGE!!

THIP THIP
WHAT NOISE?
THIS CAN'T BE GOOD.
WUP WUP
I HAVE POSITIVE TARGET I.D., SIR! SHOULD I WAIT FOR DAREDEVIL TO CLEAR--
FRY THEM BOTH!
KA BLAM
FSWOOSH
ROGER THAT, REX.
HALSTEAD? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

BACK HOME WE CALL IT CLEANING HOUSE, SON!
SCHWAK
MY FIRST MISTAKE WAS LETTING THAT MONSTROSITY KEEP HER OWN MIND AFTER I'D FINISHED WITH HER BODY! MY SECOND WAS GETTING TANGLED UP WITH YOU! FIRE!
NO! YOU CAN'T JUST IMPOSE YOUR OWN WILL ON HUMAN BEINGS WHEN IT SUITS YOU!
THERE HAS TO BE CONSEQUENCES, EVEN FOR SOMEONE AS POWERFUL AS YOU!
WHAKABOOM
YOU HAVE BEEN JUDGED-- ONCE AND FOR ALL!
INFAMNIA! NO!
DON'T DO THIS! LET THE LAW HANDLE HIM!
THE LAW?!? HE IS THE LAW!
THERE CAN BE NO JUSTICE FOR ME! INFAMNIA'S NOT EVEN HUMAN!
MAYBE SHE'S NOT--
--BUT GINA IS!

GINA?
OUR HUMANITY IS DETERMINED BY OUR ACTIONS, NOT OUR CIRCUMSTANCES! IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR YOU! BENEATH THE RAGE OF INFAMNIA STILL BEATS THE HEART OF GINA MORRIS!
GINA... IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE ANYONE CALLED ME THAT! I HAD FORGOTTEN THE SOUND. WHAT HAVE I LET MYSELF BECOME?
TRULY NO BETTER THAN YOU, EVERETT... THE INSIDE MATCHES THE OUTSIDE!
:COUGH!:
WE CAN SORT THIS OUT ON THE NEXT BUILDING, GINA. THE EXPLOSION IS CONSUMING EVERYTHING. THE ROOF IS ABOUT TO COLLAPSE!
POP
GINA... I'VE LOST IT ALL!
FOOSH
REALLY? FUNNY, I THINK YOUR STAR WITNESS TO ANY PURPORTED WRONG-DOING JUST WENT UP IN SMOKE.
UNLESS YOU'RE WILLING TO TAKE OFF THAT MASK AND PUT HAND TO BIBLE, I DON'T THINK YOU HAVE MUCH OF A CASE.
COME ON! YOU'VE GOT TO JUMP NOW, GINA!
WAY THE PAPERS WILL SEE IT, I KILLED MY OWN WOULD-BE ASSASSIN WITH SOME GOOD OLD-FASHIONED AMERICAN KNOW-HOW!
NO ONE'S GOING TO CRY OVER ANOTHER DEAD MONSTER, AND BY TOMORROW, I'LL BE ON TOP ACROSS THE POLLS.
AFTER ALL THAT, THE GREAT BEAST FELLED WITH HER OWN SECRET NAME. RIGHT OUT OF A FAIRY TALE. GREAT JOB, SON!
SHUT YOUR MOUTH. YOU'RE GOING TO JAIL!
THOSE NUMBERS ARE EVERYTHING! THE NUMBERS RULE!
MAYBE IN YOUR WORLD, BUT NOT IN MINE.

"ESPECIALLY NOT TODAY."
POSSESSED BY A RAGING INNER FIRE, THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR PIERCES THE SMOKE AND FLAME.
HE WILL NOT SETTLE FOR A WORLD WHERE A HUMAN LIFE, NO MATTER HOW FAR GONE, IS WORTHLESS. WHERE NUMBERS DICTATE LIFE AND DEATH.
THAT'S NOT WHAT A HERO DOES.
No...
Mr. HALSTEAD-- YOU ALL RIGHT?
NO. I DON'T THINK THAT I AM, SON.
THE HERO REACHES OUT TO THE SPIRIT OF THE BROKEN PERSON AND OFFERS HOPE.
ON THE GOOD DAYS... AND CERTAINLY TODAY... THE BROKEN PERSON DOES THE SAME FOR THE HERO.

END